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Date: November 29, 2006

Signature: _____

(Quyen Nguyen)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/682,281

Confirmation No.: 9330

Filing Date: October 08, 2003

Inventor(s): Suresh PAI et al.

Title: MINIMALLY INVASIVE CARDIAC FORCE TRANSFER
STRUCTURES

Examiner: T. Smith

Group Art Unit: 3762

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patent
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated June 29, 2006 for which a response was due on September 29, 2006. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a two-month extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response to November 29, 2006. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the Remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.